

## 1. Amendments to the Specification

1. At page 17, line 1, please replace the ABSTRACT with the following amended ABSTRACT:

~~The invention relates to an An ultrasonic imaging apparatus using a method for combining CMB images of the same object including a step of seeking representative contours CNT of an interface on the images to be combined IM[I], IM[J]; is disclosed. The said step being is intended to define interest areas IA[I], IA[J] in the vicinity of said representative contours. The method also includes - a step ANA of analyzing the interest areas IA[I], IA[J], said analysis step ANA being intended to allocate weights W[I], W[J] to the points on said interest areas IA[I], IA[J] and to the points corresponding to said interest areas IA[I], IA[J] on the various images. The method also includes - a step CC of constructing a combination image IM<sub>C</sub>, a point on the combination image IM<sub>C</sub> corresponding to a point on at least one interest area IA being obtained from a weighting of the corresponding points on the images to be combined IM[I], IM[J] according to the weights W[I], W[J] allocated in said analysis step ANA.~~

~~The invention makes it possible to preserve the properties of certain areas of a particular image within a combination of images without for all that being detrimental to the advantages shown by the combination.~~

~~Application: Ultrasonic imaging apparatus using a spatial combination of images.~~

Fig. 2